

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	09/655,537	TOMITA, TOSHIKAZU	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Madeleine AV Nguyen	2626	

-- **The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address.**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to amendment filed on February 25, 2005.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-20.
3. The drawings filed on 06 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 2/12/01
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

DETAILED ACTION

This communication is responsive to amendment filed on February 25, 2005.

Applicant amends claims 1, 4, 7, 11, 14, and 17.

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 11-20, filed on February 25, 2005, with respect to claims 1-20 have been fully considered and are persuasive. The rejection of claims 1-20 has been withdrawn.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-20 are allowed.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: claims 1-20 are allowable over the prior art of record because the Examiner found neither prior art cited in its entirety, nor based on the prior art, found any motivation to combine any of the said prior art which teaches:

A. An ink supply amount adjusting method and apparatus for a printing press having an ink roller group for supplying ink to a plate in an amount adjusted in accordance with a feed rate of an ink fountain roller, comprising the steps of or means for obtaining reference opening amounts of ink fountain keys in accordance with image area ratios of respective areas, corresponding to the ink fountain keys, of the plate by following a preset separate conversion curve of a respective ink color, of the relationship between an image area ratio and opening

amounts of the ink fountain keys; and uniformly correcting the obtained reference opening amounts of the ink fountain keys with preset correction values (claims 1-6, 11-16).

B. An ink supply amount adjusting method and apparatus for a printing press having an ink roller group for supplying ink to a plate in an amount adjusted in accordance with a feed rate of an ink fountain roller, comprising the steps of or means for resetting correction values of feed rates of the ink fountain rollers and correcting a preset reference feed rate of the ink fountain roller wherein the feed rate is determined for a respective ink color or the feed rate is determined from a separate conversion curve for a respective ink color by using the preset correction values thereby obtaining set values of the feed rates of the ink fountain rollers (claims 7-10, 17-20).

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

a. Sugiyama et al (US Patent No. 6,412,411) discloses a method of correcting a position of each ink fountain key wherein a position of an ink fountain key is set as a present position with a reference to a home position by using print data including an image area ratio of a reference plate having a predetermined image.

b. Sugiyama et al (US Patent No. 5,921,184) teaches an ink film thickness control method for an ink supply apparatus including an ink doctor roller for supplying the ink

Art Unit: 2626

supplied to the ink fountain roller to a printing plate through an ink roller group in accordance with a feed operation, the aperture ratios of all the ink fountain keys and a rotation ratio of the ink fountain roller.

5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Madeleine AV Nguyen whose telephone number is 571 272-7466. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kimberly A. Williams can be reached on 571 272-7471. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



June 25, 2005

Madeleine AV Nguyen
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2626